

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 09968 290340Z

21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

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R 281143Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2597

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL KARACHI SQWP

AMCONSUL LAHORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 9968

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PK, AF

SUBJECT: INTENSIFICATION OF HOSTIL PAK PROPAGANDA

1. MAJOR PAKISTAN PRESS OCTOBER 25 CARRIED IDENTICAL STORIES HARSHLY CRITICAL OF GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN. THESE REPORT THAT GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN HAS EXECUTED BY BEHEADING FOURTEEN "REVOLUTIONARIES" OF PANJSHER PROVINCE AND SENT THEIR HEADS TO THE MEDICAL FACULTY OF KABUL UNIVERSITY FOR "EXPERIMENTATION." PAKISTAN TIMES OCTOBER 26 ISSUE WAS AMONG SEVERAL MAJOR PAPERS FRONTPAGING PPI ACCOUNT, DATELINED PESHAWAR (BUT, WE SUSPECT, WRITTEN IN ISLAMABAD), WHICH WAS SUPPOSEDLY BASED ON "REPORTS COMING FROM ACROSS THE BORDER." TIMES STORY CALLS BEHEADING "ONE OF THE MOST HEINOUS ACTS OF BARBARISMS" BY THE "THE AFGHAN RULING JUNTA." ITEM ALLEGES THAT "DESPERATE" GOA IS INCREASING ARRESTS AND TORTURES OF "FREEDOM FIGHTERS" IN A BID TO CHECK A "COORDINATED RESISTANCE." CRACKDOWN, ACCORDING TO PRESS, ALSO INCLUDES "HARSH REPRISALS" FOLLOWING ATTACK ON ARMY POST AT ASMAR, NEAR JALALABAD, WHICH RESULTED

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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 09968 290340Z

IN DEATH OF AFGHAN OFFICER LATE LAST MONTH. IN KANDAHAR

AREA, ACCOUNT ALSO ALLEGES, GOA HAS TAKEN MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN LAW AND ORDER FOLLOWING ANTI-GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES THERE LAST WEEK.

2. QUOTING FROM "A RECENT ISSUE" OF NEUE ZURICHER ZEITUNG, PPI ACCOUNT ATTRIBUTES RESISTANCE TO GOA AS SPARKED BY REBELLIOUS YOUTH AND LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION FRUSTRATED BY FAILURE OF GOA IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FIELDS.

3. EMBOFF DISCUSSED SIGNIFICANCE OF ARTICLE OCT 27 WITH MFA DIRECTOR (AFGHANISTAN) K.U.K. GHORI. GHORI ADMITTED THAT, AS ACCOUNT WAS REplete WITH WORDS CALCULATED TO OFFEND SUCH AS "BARBARIOUS" AND "FREEDOM FIGHTERS," THAT IT REPRESENTS AN INTENDED ESCALATION OF THE PAK SIDE OF THW WORD WAR WITH KABUL. NOT SURPRISINGLY, DIRECTOR CLAIMS PAKS ARE MATCHING A GOA ESCALATION AND GIVING THEM "TIT FOR TAT." AS TO IDENTITY OF THOSE BEHEADED, GHORI SAID PAKS BELIEVE THEY WERE AMONG THOSE CAPTURED IN JULY PANJSHER INCIDENT AND HELD IN KABUL JAIL.
BYROADE

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